

MARVEL

10

LGY#777



R. OTTLEY
HOLLINGSWORTH

GATES
OTTLEY
RATHBURN
OBACK
GRACIA

MARVEL REMEMBERS

TOM PALMER

1941–2022



“Yet another comic legend has left us. Aside from being an incredible inker and painter, Tom was a true gentleman. He was like Obi-Wan to so many young editors and artists, freely sharing his experiences and wisdom with us all. Rest in peace, Tom.”

—C.B. CEBULSKI

HULK

HULK HAS RECENTLY UNDERGONE A DRAMATIC TRANSFORMATION. HIS ALTER EGO, BRUCE BANNER, HAS SPLIT THE HULK INTO THREE DISTINCT PARTS: THE HULK'S BODY HAS BEEN TURNED INTO A STARSHIP. BANNER'S PSYCHE PILOTS IT FROM WITHIN THE HULK'S MIND. AND THE HULK'S PSYCHE FUELS THE STARSHIP WITH HIS ANGER.

DURING A CATAclySMIC BATTLE BETWEEN HULK AND THOR, BRUCE BANNER REVEALED THAT A MYSTERIOUS, DARK FORCE CALLED TITAN HAD SEIZED CONTROL OF HIS BODY AND USED IT TO COMMIT HORRIFIC VIOLENCE, MURDERING A BAR FULL OF PATRONS IN EL PASO, TEXAS. AND SO THOR TOLD THE WORLD THAT THE HULK HAD PERISHED IN THAT EXPLOSIVE FIGHT SO THAT STARSHIP HULK COULD FLY OFF INTO THE FAR REACHES OF SPACE AND PERHAPS FIND A WAY TO HEAL HIS FRACTURED PSYCHE.

BUT WHEN A PLANET COATED IN GAMMA WITH A POPULATION WHOSE STRENGTH MIGHT RIVAL THE HULK'S CAME ACROSS THE STARSHIP'S RADAR, BRUCE COULDN'T RESIST THE SIREN SONG OF A PLACE WHERE HE MIGHT BELONG. AND THERE TO GREET HIM WAS THE MYSTERIOUS MONOLITH...

"HULK PLANET"

..... *part two*

by

DONNY CATES *and* **RYAN OTTLEY**

CLIFF RATHBURN *inker*

SONIA OBACK *and* **MARTE GRACIA** *color artists*

VC's CORY PETIT *letterer*

RYAN OTTLEY *and* **MATT HOLLINGSWORTH** .. *cover artists*

E.J. SU *variant cover artist*

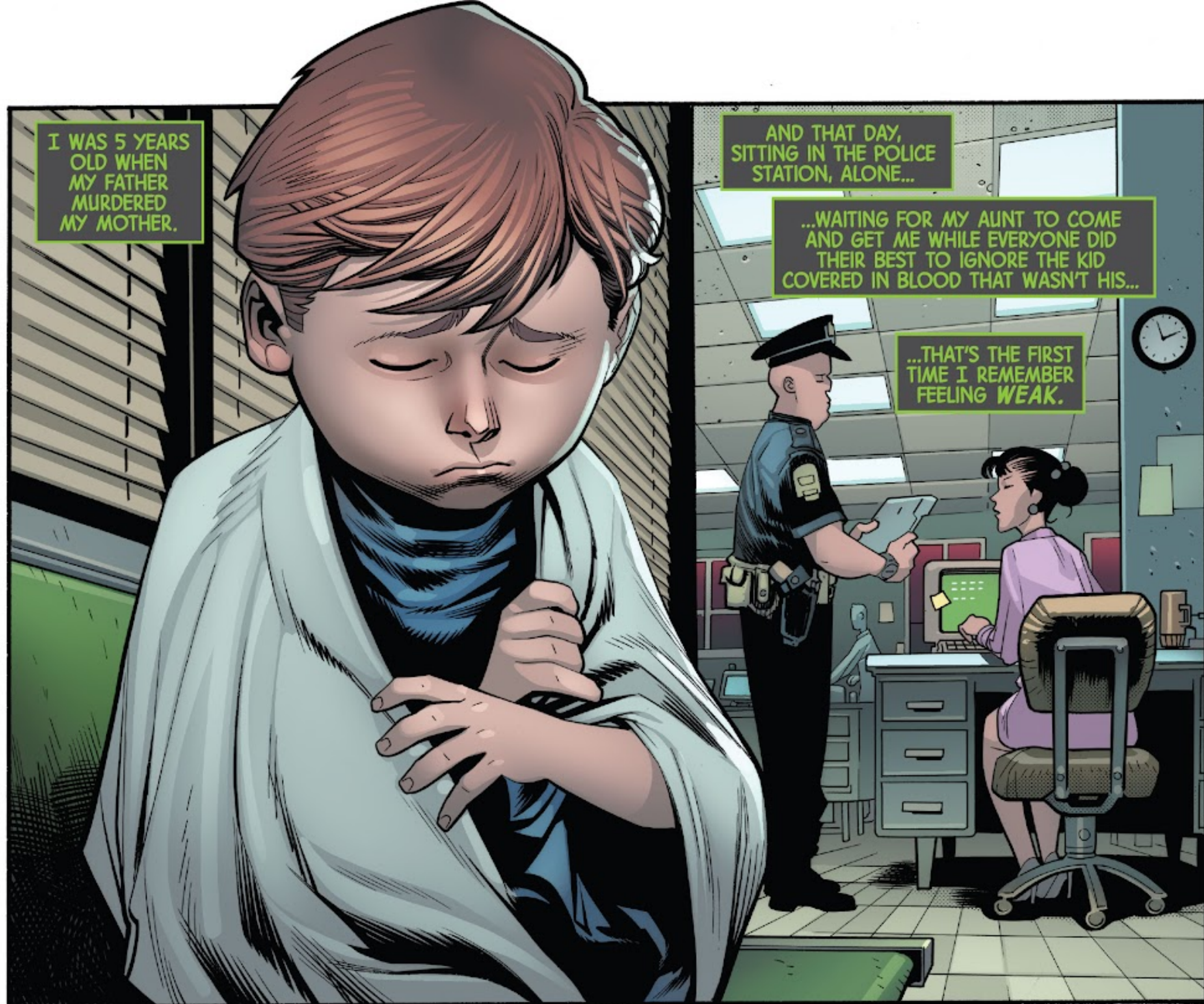
ANTHONY GAMBINO *production design* | **MICHELLE MARCHESE** *assistant editor*

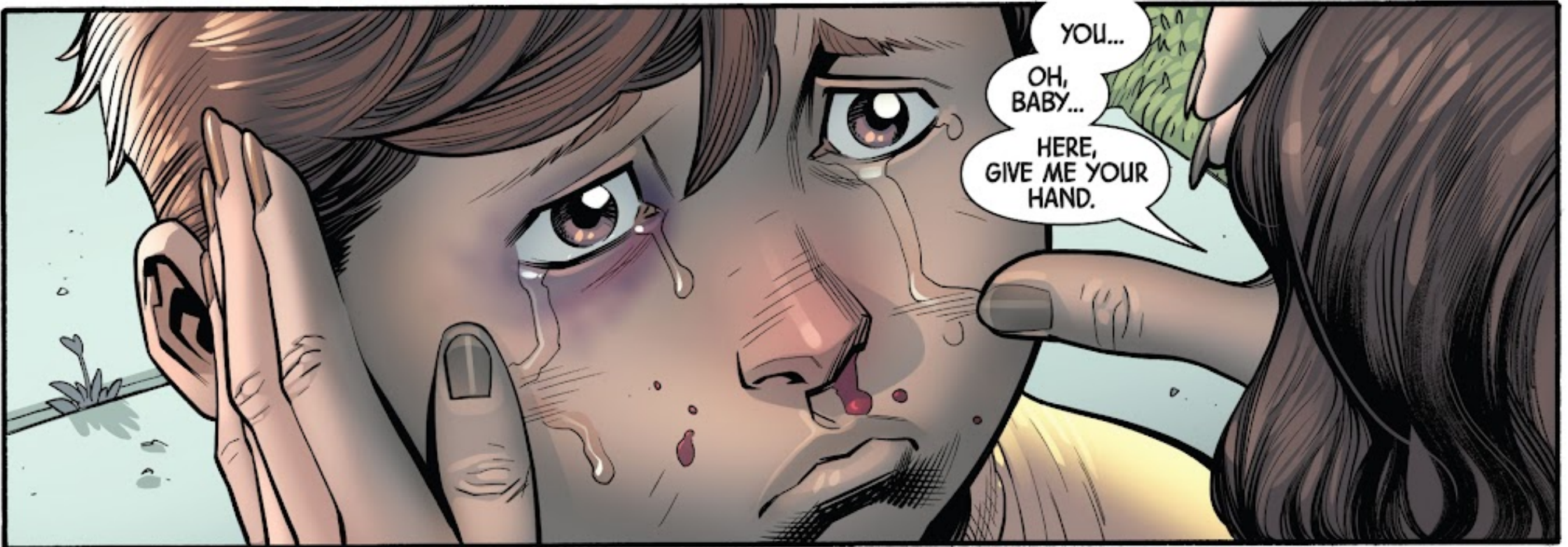
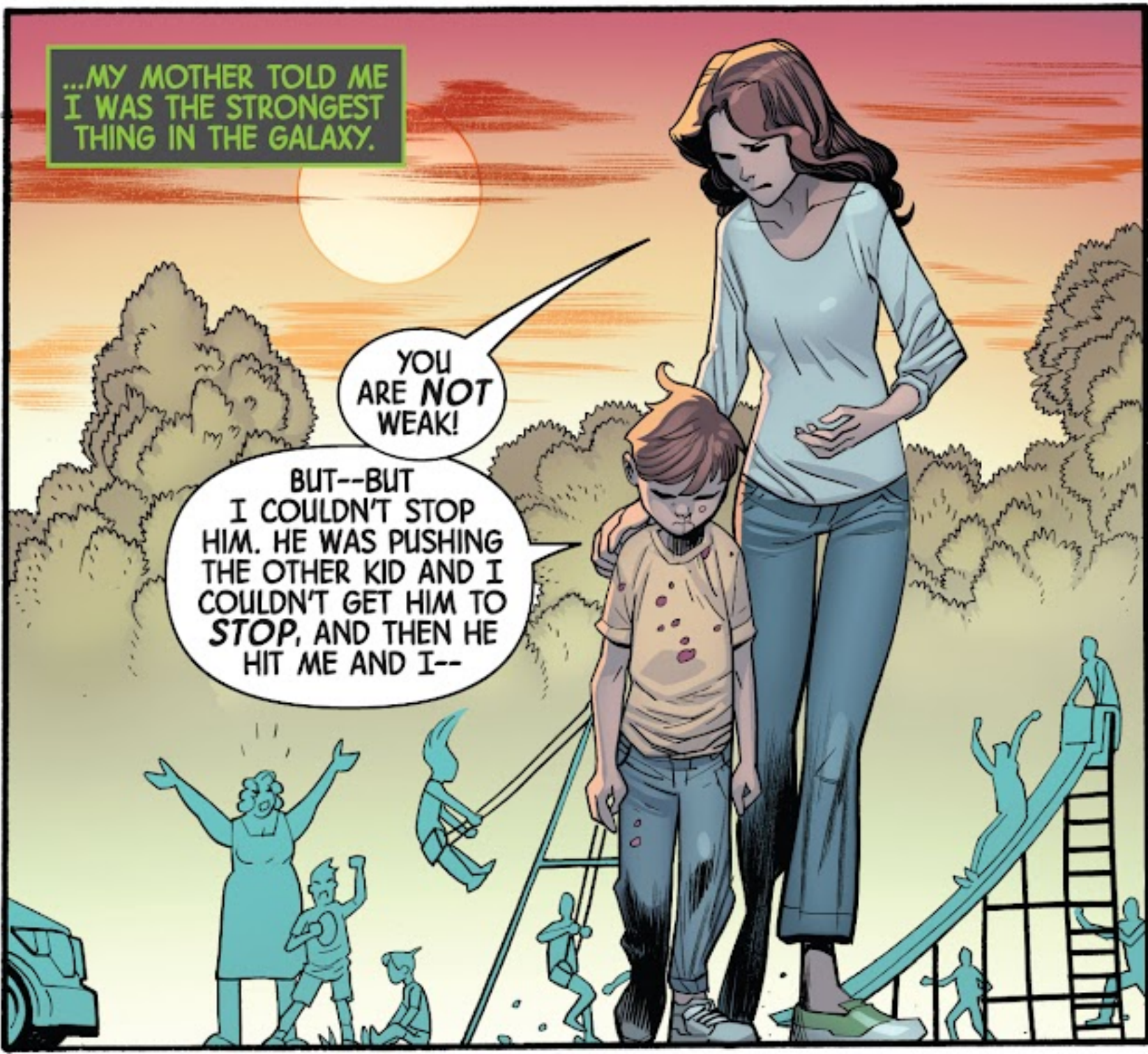
WIL MOSS *editor* | **C.B. CEBULSKI** *editor in chief*

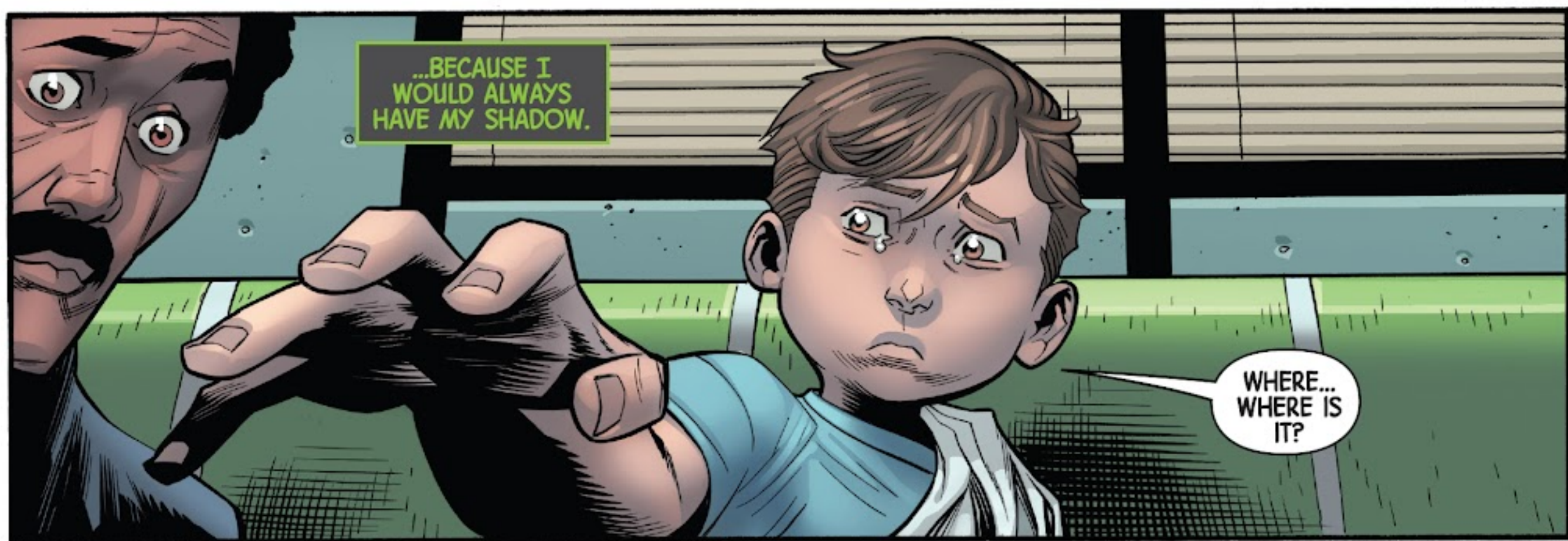
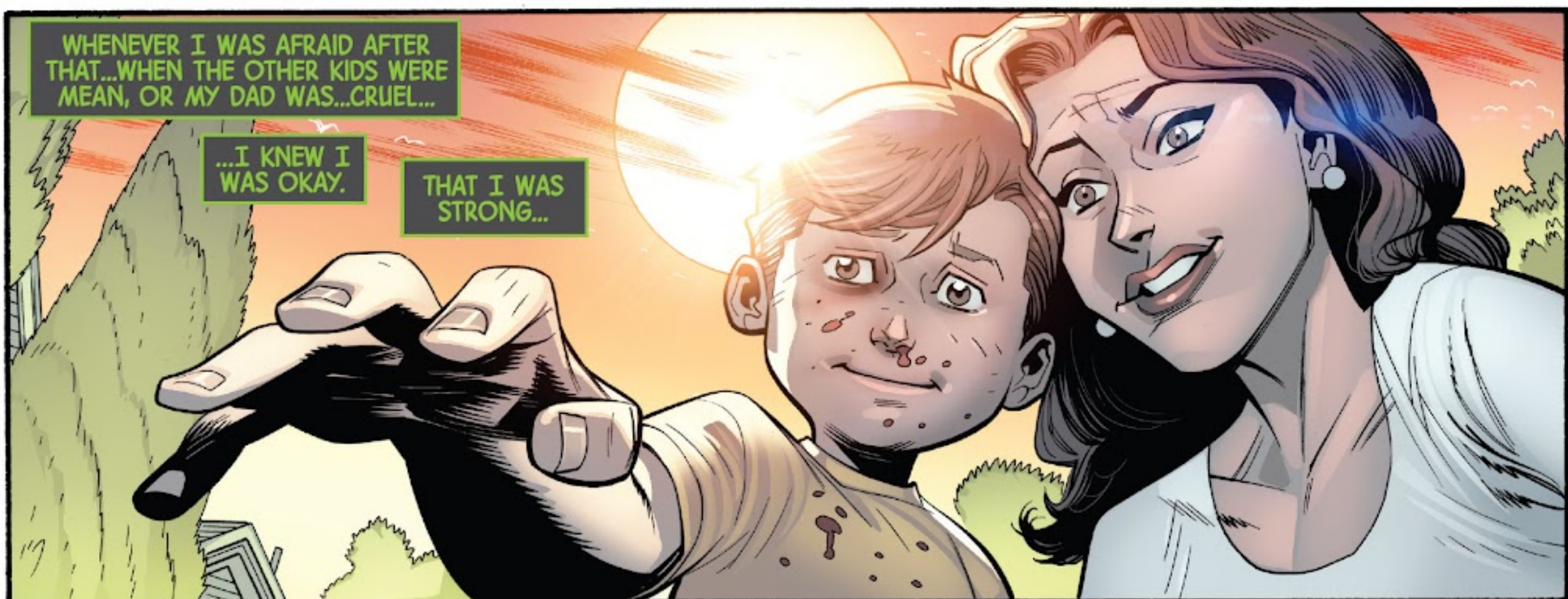
HULK *created by* **STAN LEE** *and* **JACK KIRBY**

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NOW.

BUT
THEN...
IT WENT
AWAY.



IN THE FLUORESCENT
LIGHTS OF THAT POLICE
STATION, I COULDN'T
FIND IT. I COULDN'T
FIND MY SHADOW.

SO I CLOSED MY
EYES. AND I HEARD
SOMEONE SAY THAT NO
ONE COULD HURT ME.

AND I KNEW
IT WAS A LIE.

THAT THE HURT
WAS ALWAYS GOING
TO BE THERE.



BECAUSE I DID
FIND IT. I FOUND MY
SHADOW AGAIN.

BUT...WHEN I DID,
IT WASN'T MY
SHADOW. NOT
ANYMORE....



IT WAS
HIM.

HE HAD
BROKEN
THE SUN.

K R N C
H



AND
I WOULD
ALWAYS BE IN
HIS SHADOW.



HULK?



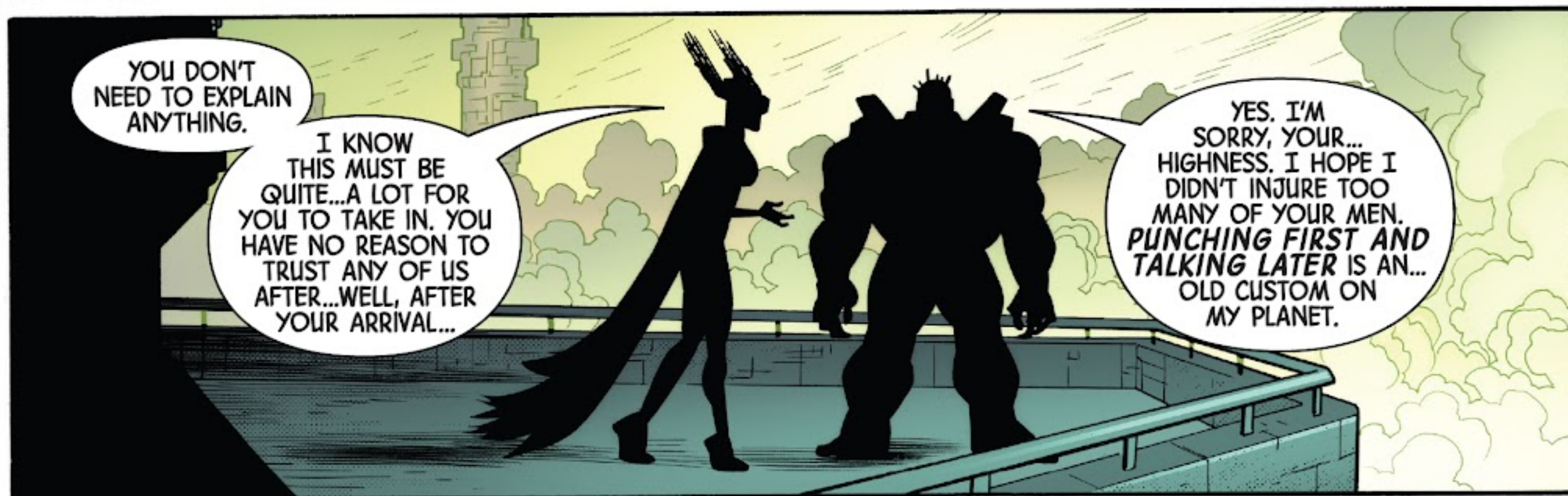
IS EVERYTHING
OKAY?



YES.
SORRY.

IT'S...
SAMSON.
THERAPY. I
HAVE TO...

YOU KNOW...
I DON'T ACTUALLY
KNOW HOW TO EXPLAIN
THIS NOW THAT I'VE
STARTED TALKING...



YOU DON'T
NEED TO EXPLAIN
ANYTHING.

I KNOW
THIS MUST BE
QUITE...A LOT FOR
YOU TO TAKE IN. YOU
HAVE NO REASON TO
TRUST ANY OF US
AFTER...WELL, AFTER
YOUR ARRIVAL...

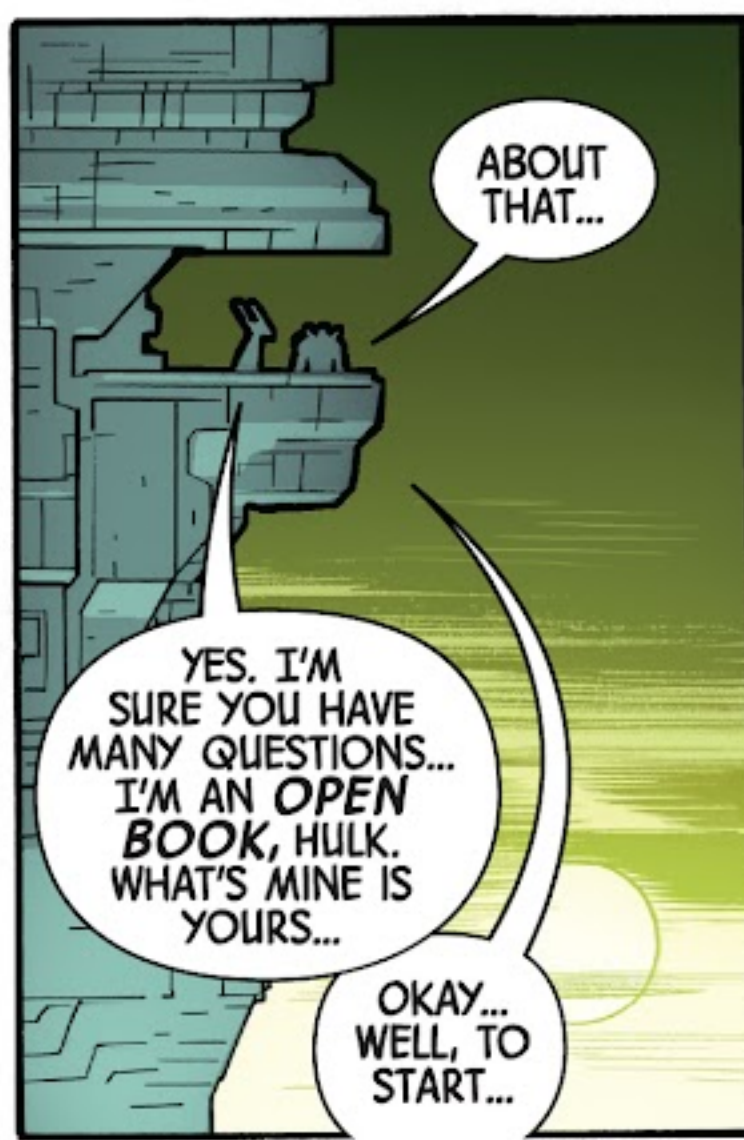
YES. I'M
SORRY, YOUR...
HIGHNESS. I HOPE I
DIDN'T INJURE TOO
MANY OF YOUR MEN.
**PUNCHING FIRST AND
TALKING LATER IS AN...**
OLD CUSTOM ON
MY PLANET.



OH, **THE GREYS?** THEY ARE FAR FROM
MY "MEN"--THEY ARE MORE **HUMAN**
THAN THEY ARE **US**. DON'T WORRY
ABOUT THEM.

I DON'T--

AND YOU
MAY JUST CALL ME
MONOLITH. THERE'S NO
NEED FOR THE FORMALITIES.
I INVITED YOU HERE.
YOU ARE MY GUEST.



ABOUT
THAT...

YES. I'M
SURE YOU HAVE
MANY QUESTIONS...
I'M AN **OPEN
BOOK**, HULK.
WHAT'S MINE IS
YOURS...

OKAY...
WELL, TO
START...



WHAT THE
HELL IS ALL
OF THIS?

YES...



"LONG AGO,
THIS PLANET
WAS EMPTY.

"INHOSPITABLE
AND HOSTILE.
DEVOID OF LIFE.



"BUT THEN...



"...THERE
WAS LIGHT!



"OUR KIND..."

"YOUR KIND..."



"WE WERE THROWN AWAY
FROM THE WORLD WHERE
WE WERE CREATED.



"LIKE BROKEN ANGELS,
WE FELL TO THIS WORLD..."



"AND PRIMITIVE AS
WE WERE IN THOSE
DAYS...WE KNEW..."



"...WE WERE
ABOMINATIONS.



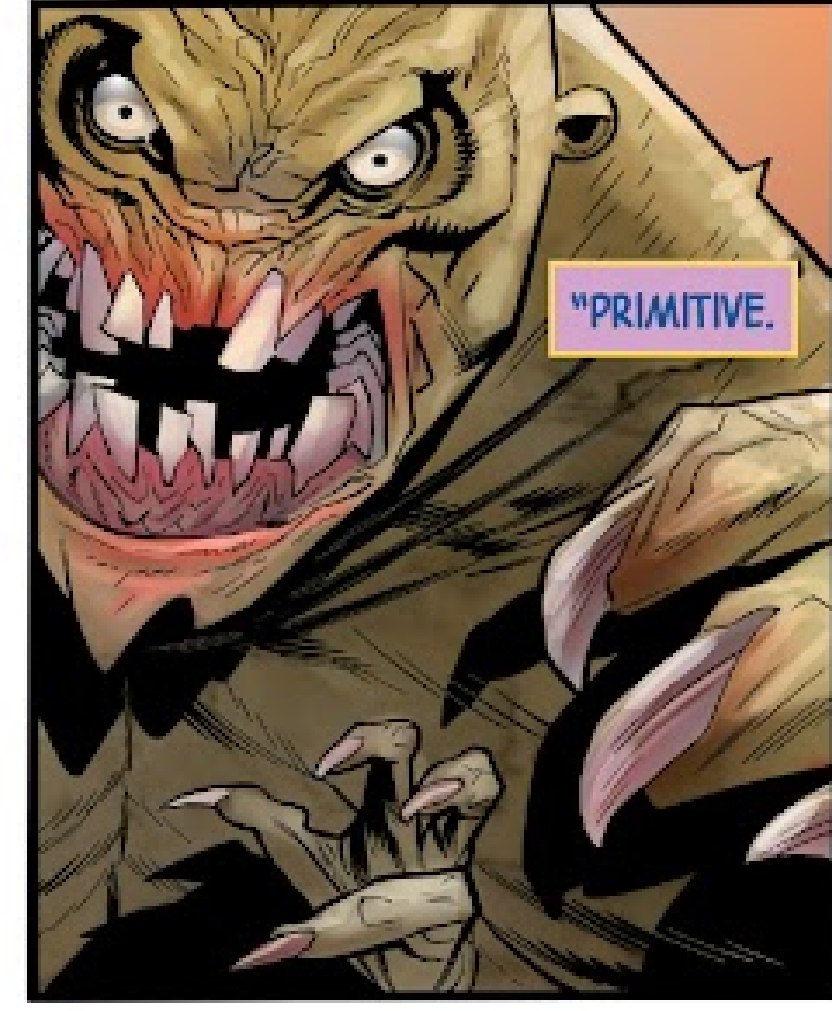
"WE WERE
UNWANTED.



"CAST DOWN BY
OUR CREATORS..."



"IMPERFECT.



"PRIMITIVE.



RAHHH!!!

"SAVAGE.



"AND OH...



"...OH, HOW WE RAGED.



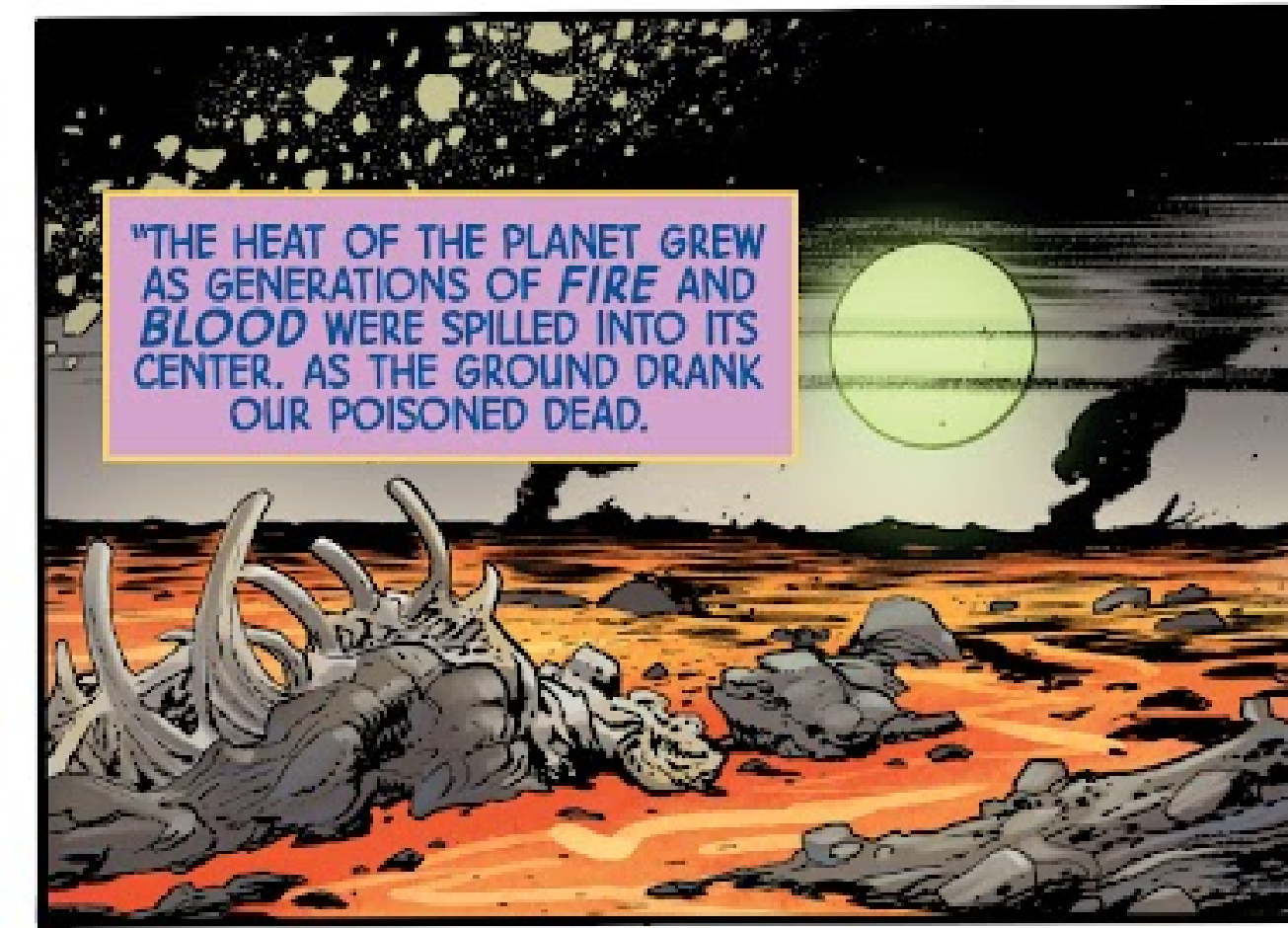
"WE BROKE THE MOUNTAINS.



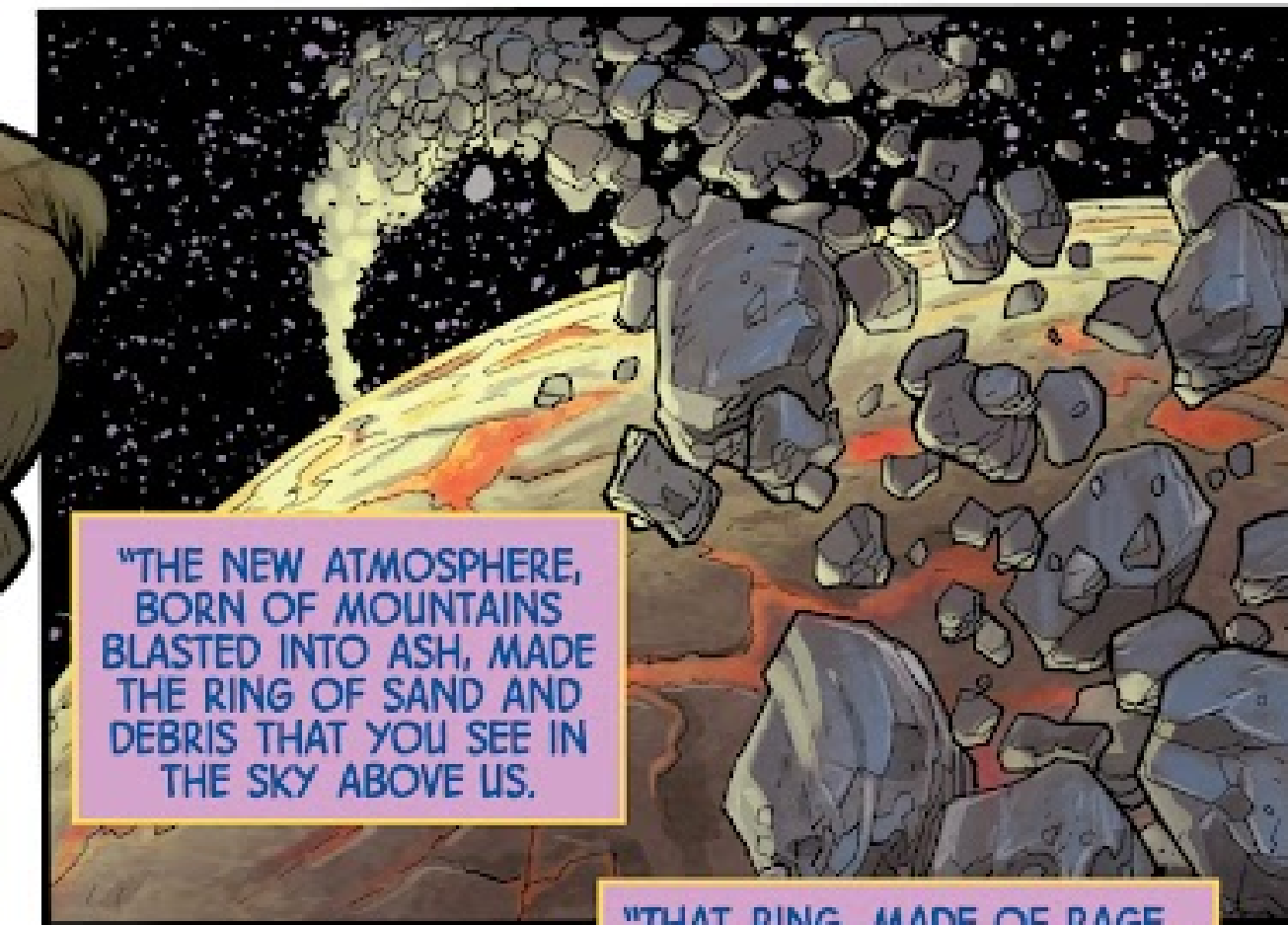
"WE TORE THE HILLS AND THE GREAT STONE SKELETONS OF ANCIENT MOLTEN CORE TO ASH WITH OUR HANDS.



"IN OUR RAGING BEGINNINGS, WE RIPPED THE VERY PLANET NEARLY IN HALF WITH OUR HANDS.



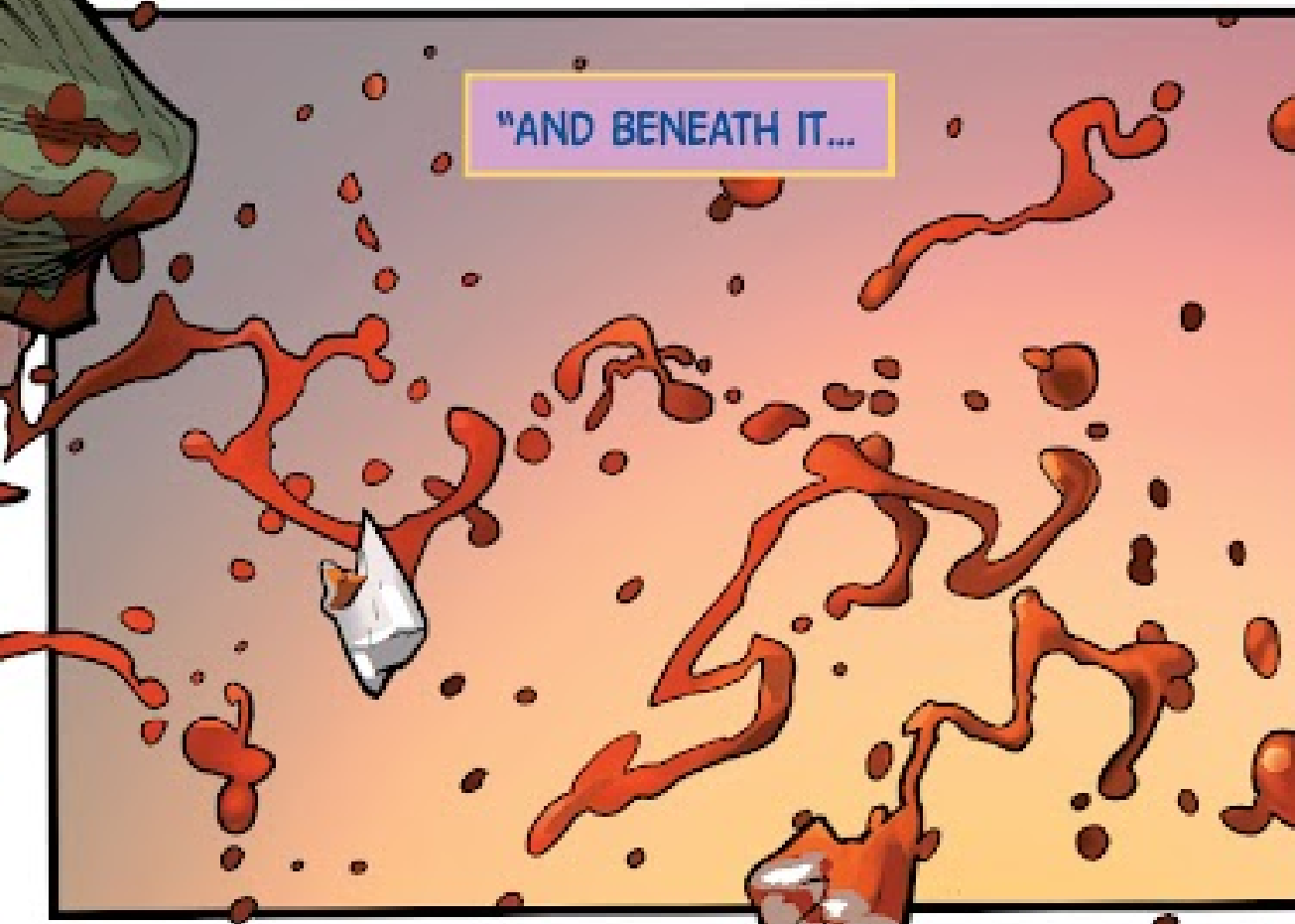
"THE HEAT OF THE PLANET GREW AS GENERATIONS OF FIRE AND BLOOD WERE SPILLED INTO ITS CENTER. AS THE GROUND DRANK OUR POISONED DEAD.



"THE NEW ATMOSPHERE, BORN OF MOUNTAINS BLASTED INTO ASH, MADE THE RING OF SAND AND DEBRIS THAT YOU SEE IN THE SKY ABOVE US.



"THAT RING...MADE OF RAGE... COOLED AND SHIELDED US FROM OUR SUN.



"AND BENEATH IT...



"...WE BEGAN TO GROW.

"THE PULSING, CONSTANT PRESSURE OF OUR FISTS SLOWLY CHANGED AND ALTERED OUR ORBIT.



"THE CYCLE OF LIFE AND DEATH AND REBIRTH SOAKED THE GROUND BELOW US IN GAMMA RADIATION.

"WHAT WAS BLOOD BECAME SOIL...



"...WHICH BECAME FOOD...



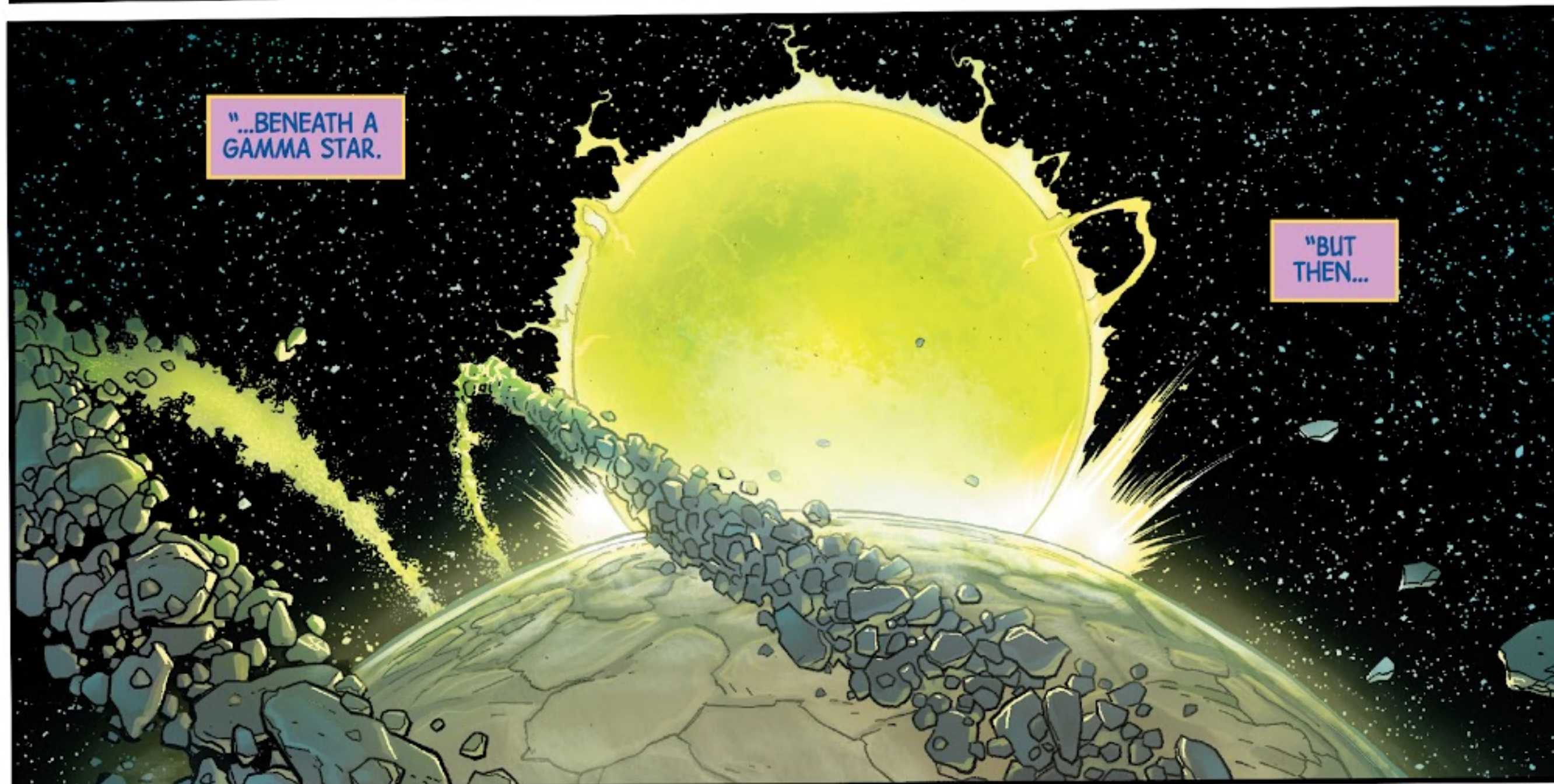
"...WHICH THEN ROSE INTO THE SKY ON OUR SCREAMS AND TERRAFORMED AN ENTIRE PLANET MADE JUST...FOR US.

"A HEAVEN FOR BROKEN ANGELS.



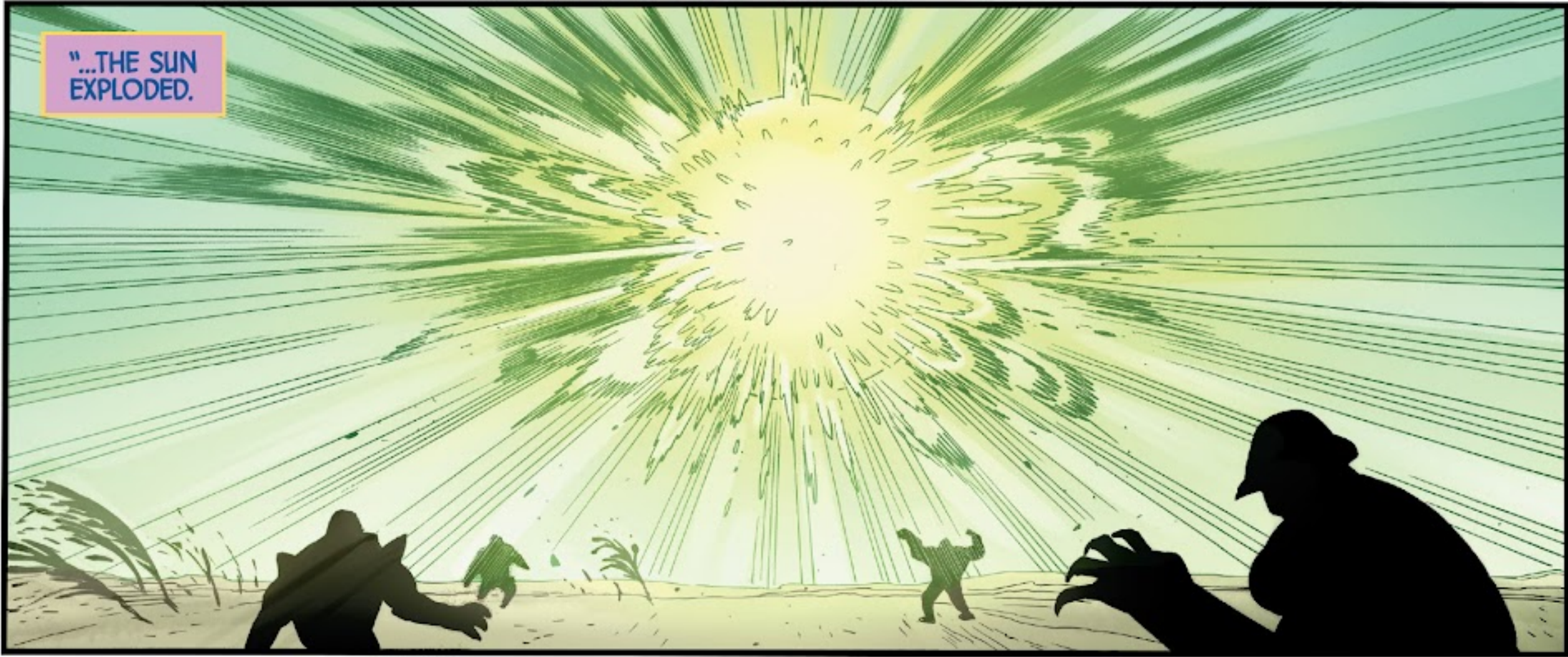
"BUILT FROM RAGE.

"SO THAT WE MAY KNOW PEACE...



"...BENEATH A GAMMA STAR.

"BUT THEN...



"...THE SUN
EXPLODED.



"BUT THERE WAS
SOMETHING IN
THAT LIGHT...

"A VOICE...
A NAME...

"SOMETHING...

"SOMEONE..."



"YOU.

RAGHHHH!!!



"YOU
CHANGED
US.

RAGHHH!!!







SORRY.
THIS IS...A LOT
TO TAKE IN. AND
THAT...

MAN,
THAT WAS
HEAVY.
SO--



...
"HE-AVY"?



YEAH...UM, IT
WAS DIFFICULT TO
LIFT? HEAVY?

I'M SORRY,
HULK...I DON'T
UNDER--

HA. WOW.
YEAH, OF COURSE
YOU WOULDN'T.

FORGET
ABOUT IT. AND
HEY...



BRUCE.

YOU CAN CALL
ME BRUCE. BRUCE
BANNER. IT'S MY...
WELL, MY REAL
NAME.





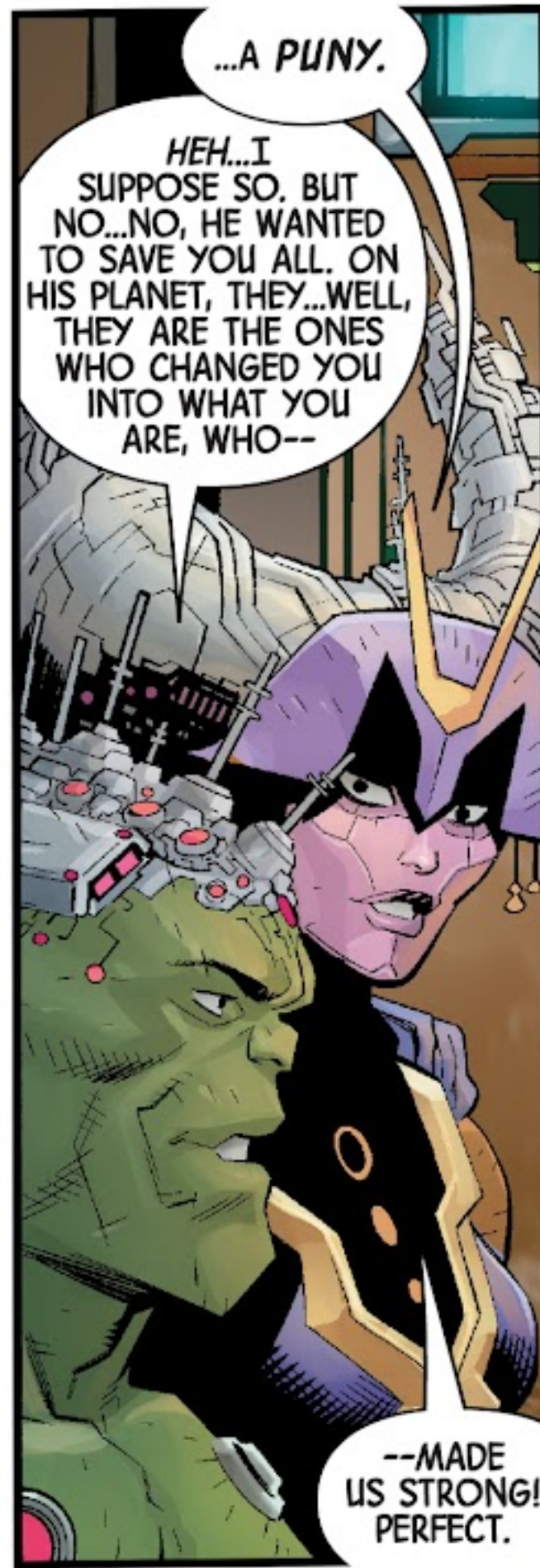


--THERE WAS
A VERSION OF ME.
A **DIFFERENT**
VERSION. A MAN. A
MAN WHO
NEVER--

"MAN"?

YES. HE...
HE NEVER
BECAME WHAT
WE ARE.

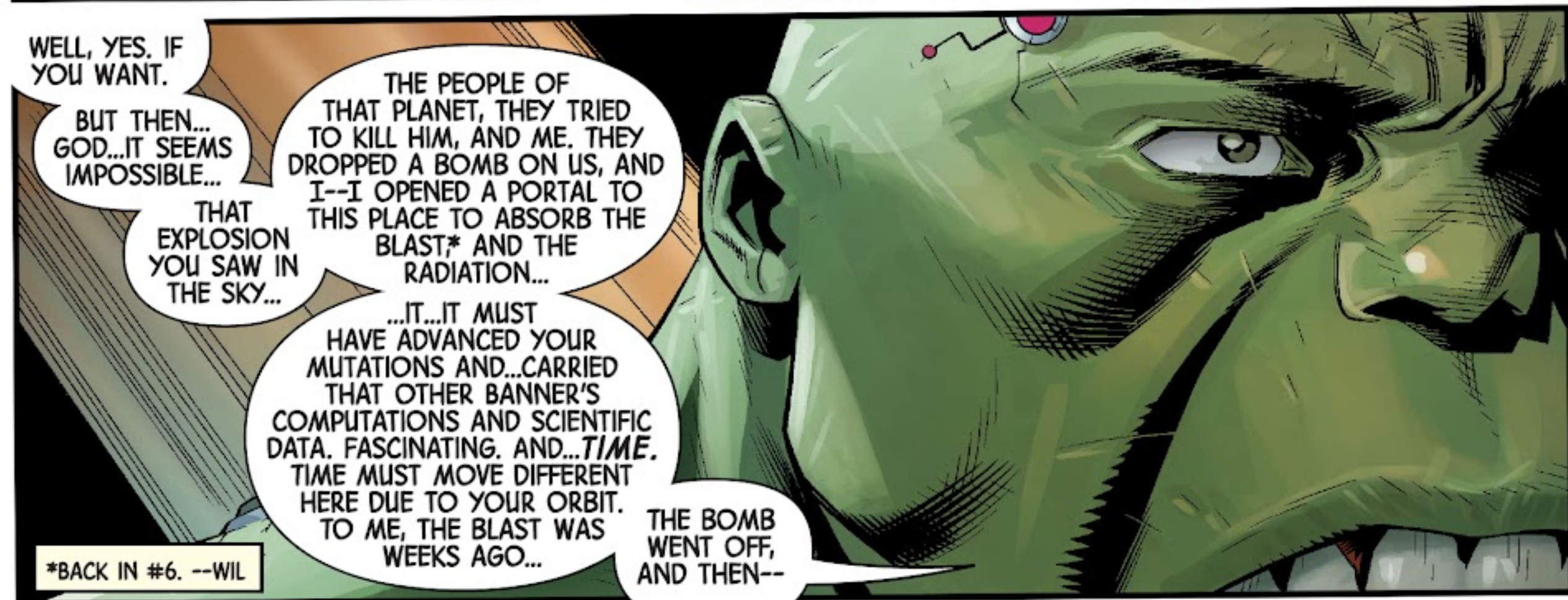
AH. A
GREY THEN.
OR, HOW YOU
WOULD
SAY...



...A **PUNY**.

HEH...I
SUPPOSE SO. BUT
NO...NO, HE WANTED
TO SAVE YOU ALL. ON
HIS PLANET, THEY...WELL,
THEY ARE THE ONES
WHO CHANGED YOU
INTO WHAT YOU
ARE, WHO--

--MADE
US STRONG!
PERFECT.



WELL, YES. IF
YOU WANT.

BUT THEN...
GOD...IT SEEMS
IMPOSSIBLE...

THAT
EXPLOSION
YOU SAW IN
THE SKY...

THE PEOPLE OF
THAT PLANET, THEY TRIED
TO KILL HIM, AND ME. THEY
DROPPED A BOMB ON US, AND
I--I OPENED A PORTAL TO
THIS PLACE TO ABSORB THE
BLAST* AND THE
RADIATION...

...IT...IT MUST
HAVE ADVANCED YOUR
MUTATIONS AND...CARRIED
THAT OTHER BANNER'S
COMPUTATIONS AND SCIENTIFIC
DATA. FASCINATING. AND...**TIME**.
TIME MUST MOVE DIFFERENT
HERE DUE TO YOUR ORBIT.
TO ME, THE BLAST WAS
WEEKS AGO...

THE BOMB
WENT OFF,
AND THEN--

*BACK IN #6. --WIL



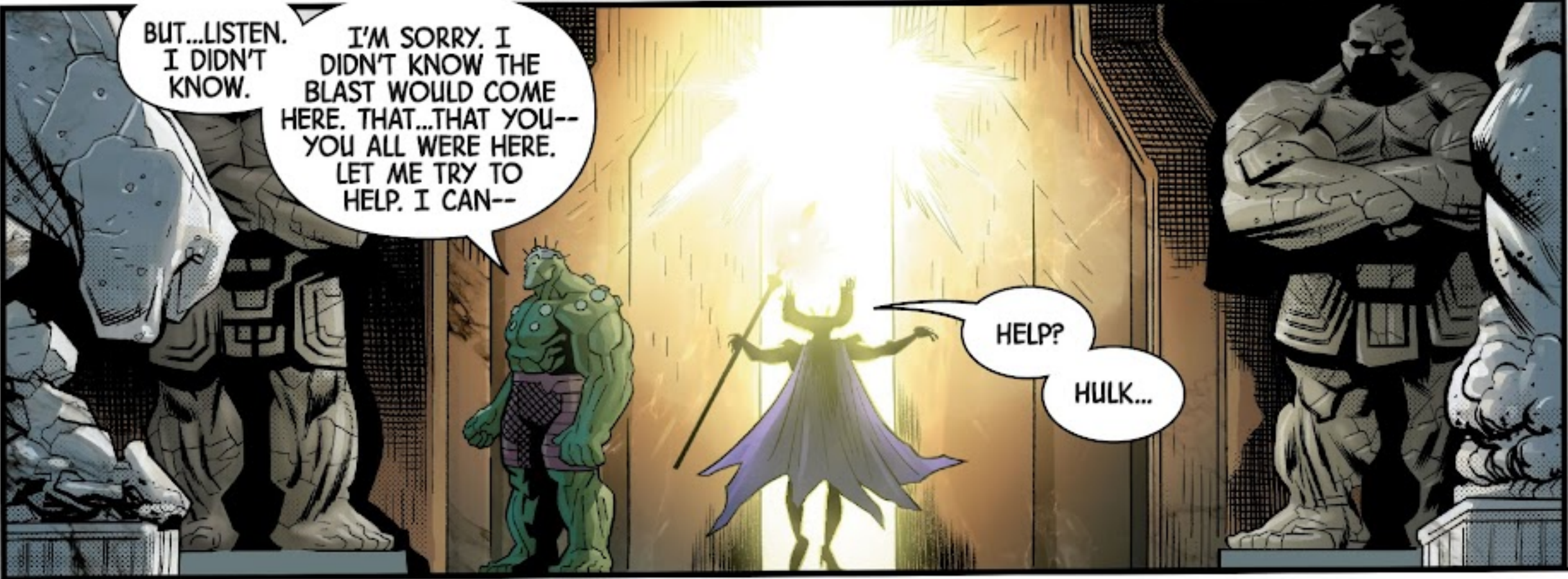
YES!
AND THEN YOU
CAME TO US, BUT
HAMMER SATAN
TRIED TO STOP
YOU--



--AND
SO YOU TORE
HIM IN HALF AND
MADE THE
RIVERS WITH HIS
BLOOD.

WE COULD
HEAR HIS CRIES
IN THUNDER
EVEN HERE.

...
...YES.
YES, I DID. I
KILLED **HAMMER SATAN**.







NEXT: GOD BALL!

GROUND CONTROL TO STARSHIP HULK

Yikes, those black masses in Hulk's brain CAN'T be good. As we ponder what Hulk Planet's healthcare system is like, check out these letters from your fellow readers!

Dear Mr. Cates and Company,

Another HULK series is off to a great start! An alternate Earth where all the Marvel heroes are either dead or never were. A Spider-Man who is a giant kaiju? This has definitely piqued my interest! Kudos, Messrs. Ottley, Rathburn and Martin for the dynamite graphics. I can't wait to see where this goes next.

Thanks, guys,
Daryle T. Schroeder
Cheektowaga, NY

Hey, Hulk team!

I've been meaning to write, and I gotta say, I've been really enjoying the new run. Cates, Ottley and the rest of the crew have been doing an incredible job making this run of the Hulk one of the most brutal and ominous comics I've read in a while. The alternate world with President Ross is a terrifying concept, the action and dialogue are absolutely stellar, and I'm hyped to see what's going on with this darker force hijacking Starship Hulk at the end of issue 5.

And I'm also excited to see what's gonna happen during the "Banner of War" crossover with Thor.

Sincerely,
Kevan Lago.

Hey, friends!

Hulk has long been one of my

all-time favorite super heroes, second only to Spider-Man for me. I've been reading his comics for many years. I adored what Al Ewing recently did with the character, and I'm thoroughly enjoying the latest run here from Donny Cates and Ryan Ottley. Whether it be the jaw-dropping artwork or the excellent writing, this "Smashtronaut" arc has been thoroughly entertaining and a real page-turner! The ending was epic, and it only has me chomping at the bit for more (and to hopefully learn more about this Titan form).

Jon Besanko
Australia

Dear Ground Control to Starship Hulk,
First of all, great title for the lettercoll!

Second, this book continues to feel like a blockbuster movie with twist upon twist to keep me in suspense. (Betty was Bruce's mind the whole time?!). Like several fellow commenters have noted, Cates' characterizations and writing choices have been deep and philosophical, a most insightful dive into a man-monster's psyche, clarifying his most extreme fears and realizing them with unparalleled artistry. That being said, I'm just blown away every issue that we are seeing further depths of Banner's inner madness, and that the fights both within and without Starship Hulk continue to escalate in ways most contemporary comics are afraid to touch.

Smash you later,
Ben Kellogg

Hey, guys,

Just wanted to write in and say that the new HULK series has been a wild ride so far. Turning the Hulk's mindscape and body into a functional spacecraft fueled by a rage engine sounds wild enough, but when you throw in a giant-sized Wolverine into the mix, we really are running at full throttle! Very much looking forward to what lies ahead, be it that the new "Dark" Hulk persona that we got a glimpse at or the upcoming Gamma-Spider scrap. Will most definitely be sticking with the Green Giant on this new adventure!

Craig Wallace
Glasgow, Scotland

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

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MARVEL.COM**

AND MARK YOUR LETTER

"OKAY TO PRINT"!

**NEXT:
GOD BALL!**



ISSUE #11

